

# The Times-Dispatch

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SUNDAY, JUNE 26, 1910.

## PRECEDENT AND POLICY.

Mr. Taft's administration has thus far entirely fulfilled the prediction made when he was elected that his would be a rule of law, and he has executed the laws as a lawyer. He has argued his cases at the bar of public opinion, and his Cabinet officers, Wickham in particular, have been told that when they advocate a policy they must be able to give the whys and wherefores.

Mr. Wickham has obeyed this order to the fullest and he has taken every opportunity to give the Administration's views of the laws affecting every great question before the country. He has discussed the rate question, the railroad bill, the labor situation, and half a score other topics. In his speech Thursday night before the Illinois State Bar Association he discussed the Federal control of stock issues by railroads and he gave the reasons why the Administration had included the control of such issues in the original draft of the railroad bill.

Mr. Wickham's citations were exhaustive and his precedents were doubtless very good, but his argument from them was decidedly weak. Briefly stated, he held that the Federal Government should have the right to decide whether or not railroads could issue new stock and bonds, because this was the only way to prevent "watering" because the Government needed this power to control the railroads and because the gift of this power would be a legitimate extension of the right to regulate interstate commerce.

Nobody will disagree with Mr. Wickham in saying that something should be done to prevent the inflation of stocks, unless the objector be engaged in that business himself; but few conservative men in the country will agree that such control is a legitimate extension of the power of the Federal Government to "regulate" interstate commerce. Regulation is not ownership, and the power to make reasonable stipulations does not carry with it the power to dictate to any public service corporation the conditions under which it may organize to do business. It is as lawful for Congress to own and to operate the railroads as it is for Congress to say that any railroad may issue stock under certain conditions and no others.

Precedent may approve such an extension of the power to regulate, but sound policy does not. We have too much regulation already and we have gone entirely too far in thinking that the duty of the Government is either to engage in business or to name the conditions under which private individuals may do so. The less the Government interferes with the individual the better, and the further the Government is from the individual the more prosperous is the citizen and the more stable the Government.

There is one other feature of Mr. Wickham's argument to which there will be very general objection. He, of course, realizes that when the Government attempts to dictate the terms under which railroads and other public service corporations engage in business, it will run counter to the State charters under which such concerns are now operating. On this point, Mr. Wickham said:

"Of course, the Federal Government cannot confer upon a State corporation the power to borrow money and issue obligations therefor, nor to create and issue shares of stock. Only the power which erected the corporation can vest it with authority for those purposes. But under all the rules and analogies, to which reference has been made, the Congress assuredly may regulate and restrain the State corporation in the exercise of those as well as of other corporate powers, and may prohibit it from issuing obligations or stocks for any purpose relating to interstate or foreign commerce except in accordance with rules and restrictions prescribed by it for the purpose of preventing the evils above referred to. In having adopted the State corporation as an agency of interstate commerce, may subject it to the same regulations with respect to the means of raising money for the purpose of carrying on such commerce as it could impose upon a corporation of its own creation."

This is absurd. There is no such thing as a strictly interstate corporation, for no man liveth to himself alone and no business house, worthy of the name, confines itself to a single State. If the Federal Government were to declare that every corporation holding a State charter and doing business in other States would be subject to the provisions of any interstate regulations of commerce that Congress might adopt, the rights of the States to regulate corporations of their own creation would be taken away. There is no possible way of separating the interstate character of a corporation from its interstate character, so far as its stock is concerned, and were Congress to attempt such a separation the result would be a general paralysis of

business and a death blow to the taxing power of the States.

## BREAKING LOOSE IN GEORGIA.

Hoke Smith has changed his mind and has entered the race for Governor of Georgia. He could not stand the pressure of his friends, and it is said by the newspapers of his State that the fight will be on the same old issues. The main issue in the last campaign, however, as we recollect, was Hoke Smith or "Little Joe" Brown. Many surprising things happen in Georgia. There are a great many "potentially cracked wheels" in that State, and it would not be safe to gamble on the result in the present campaign; but, so far as we can see at this distance, the administration of Brown has been in no sense worse than the administration of Smith. What change there has been in the fitness and purpose of Mr. Smith that would change the attitude of the Democrats of Georgia towards him we cannot imagine.

The campaign will be the shortest that has been conducted in that State for years, and the chances are that it will develop many unpleasant incidents. It is hoped, for the sake of the onlookers if not from a sense of self-respect, that the newspapers and politicians of the State will stick to wholly parliamentary methods in the press and on the stump. There will not be nearly so much excitement in this style; but there will be ample compensation for its absence in the feeling of personal cleanliness after the fight is over.

## MAKING MURDER EASY.

Porter Charlton, an American, murdered his wife, also an American, in Italy. The weapon used was a mallet, with which he struck her on the head, and before she was yet dead he packed her body in a trunk, dragged the trunk to the water and threw it into Lake Como. He fled the country and took ship for the United States. When he reached New York he was arrested, and upon arrest made a clean breast of his bloody work. It is said that there is some question as to whether or not the United States will permit his extradition because Italy would not permit certain other criminals to be extradited from that country a year or so ago. That looks very strange to the ordinary layman; but the ways of diplomacy are very strange. It is further stated that inquiry will be made as to the sanity of the murderer, as it is claimed that he was suffering from a brain-storm at the time he killed his wife. The law is also a very strange thing. It is such incidents that make the mob, that bring disgrace upon the country.

Charlton has confessed his guilt. There is nothing in it to show that he is crazy or ever was crazy. He was not so insane, at any rate, that he did not have sufficient presence of mind to hide his victim. He had sense enough to seek safety in the United States, where the murderer is always assured of sympathy. He has employed lawyers to save him from annoyance and punishment. He who kills and runs away may live to kill another day, and that would make more work for alienists and lawyers.

We are not surprised at Charlton's course. He doubtless arranged it all in his mind before he committed his crime; nor are we greatly surprised at the hesitation of the Government authorities as to the extradition—Italy made mouths at the United States and the United States will make mouths at Italy. In the meantime, a brutal murderer is taking his ease, relying confidently upon the technicalities of the law and diplomacy to deliver him from punishment of any sort for the murder he has confessed. He cannot be tried in the United States for a crime committed in Italy; he cannot be tried in Italy because he has found asylum here and is under the protection of our diplomacy. He cannot be adjudged insane in the United States for a murder committed in Italy at a time when he was alleged to be suffering from a brain-storm. It is by such technicalities that the law is brought into contempt and the ends of justice defeated.

## THE REAL DESCENDANTS.

The Society of the Descendants of the Signers will hold its annual convention in Philadelphia on July 4. It was organized at Jamestown in 1907. Its purpose is to perpetuate the memories of the great struggle for American Independence. The Descendants of Signers, resident of Virginia, will hold a meeting at the Jefferson Hotel Tuesday afternoon for the purpose of stimulating greater interest among the Descendants in Virginia in the patriotic work of the National Society, to increase its membership in Virginia, and to take the preliminary steps for the organization of a State society in Virginia. It is said that there are more than five hundred Descendants; there must be, we should think—if the Signers were as prolific as the Pilgrims who landed at Plymouth Rock—at least five thousand. Five hundred, however, form a very respectable nucleus and have the making of one of the greatest and most useful of the patriotic Orders with which our country abounds.

We would explain that the Descendants of the Signers mean only those who have come from the makers of the real Declaration of Independence at Philadelphia July 4, 1776, and that they have no connection with the "Signers" of the Jacksonburg Myth, alleged to have been declared at Charlotte, North Carolina, May 20, 1776. North Carolina had representatives in the convention at Philadelphia—William Hooper, Joseph Hewes and John Penn. They did good and patriotic work, and their Descendants are eligible to membership in the great Society which will meet in Philadelphia next week. So far as we know, not one of these men ever heard of the Jacksonburg "declaration," although they represented North Carolina

though they represented North Carolina worthily at the time the Declaration was made in Philadelphia.

The Descendants who are to be here Tuesday are "the real thing." They do not have to rely upon uncertain favors for their right to membership in this Order. Their line is complete. They know "where they are at." The Descendants of the Myth need not be greatly worried about it, however, as there are so many of us who are not signers and none of whose people ever were Signers that they may be comforted with the big company in which they must travel.

## THE KAISER AND THE BOOK.

In a day when the self-styled "higher critics" of a skeptical age are mocking at Revealed Truth, and when the unthinking advocates of "ethical culture" are telling us that the Bible is a "back number," it is refreshing to see how the noblest and best of men are cherishing the old Book with the old-time devotion, and are finding in it the same old consolation. Critics may attack it and skeptics may doubt it, but its champions are always found among those whose minds are the strongest and whose life is the purest.

Kaiser Wilhelm, the ablest, perhaps of all the rulers of earth, is one of those whose love for the Bible has not been shaken. In talking with a clergyman a few days ago, he told of the part which the Book played in his life, and in the life of his people. We cannot do better than to quote his exact words as they appear in the New York Times:

"I find the most beautiful thoughts expressed in it. I cannot understand how it is that so many persons pay so little attention to Holy Scriptures. Can any one read the Gospels and other parts of the Bible without feeling convinced that they contain simple truth, well authenticated and established on unquestionable facts? Whenever I have to come to any decision, I ask myself what the Bible would teach me to do in that particular case. The Bible is to me the fountain from which I draw light and strength in the hours of sorrow and depression. I seek consolation in the Bible, and I am convinced that many who have neglected religion will regain definite belief and will feel the need of communion with the Almighty, if they study it. Periods of dangerous doubt have always produced in their wake periods of enthusiastic religious feeling. I cannot understand how life can be lived without real communion with the Almighty. We all must go through Gethsemane. There are hours and hours in which our pride is humiliated. It is difficult for us to be weak, for each one of us desires to be his own master."

It has always been so. For everyone who has been called to pass through Gethsemane there has been solace in the Bible, and for all who have been tempted in a Desert Place, there has been refreshment in its sacred truths. History gives us a thousand proofs. When the greatest problems of State confronted him and when he knew not where to turn, Queen Victoria, of blessed memory, always sought the Bible, and when her greatest Premier Gladstone was grappling with Parliament he found rest for his doubts and peace for his soul in the story of Undying Love. Others have been as they.

A simple statement like this from the Emperor of Germany will do more good than a thousand sermons, for men look up to such a leader and respect his judgment where they would scoff at those who hold a less exalted position. In this, and in many other things, the Emperor has shown what manner of man he is, and, it may be added, has shown the world how it is that he has mounted so high and has stood so securely.

## THE PUTNAM THEATRE MISSION.

For two years Mr. James H. Goddin has been conducting the Putnam Theatre Gospel Mission in Franklin Street. Every night the place, which was originally devoted to amusements of the cheapest and most vicious character, is vocal with prayer and praise. Christian workers have taken possession of it and are using it for the redemption of fallen humanity and the glory of God.

Situated in the heart of "the red-light district," among the forsaken, it is building up the broken down and administering consolation to the outcast. Its work has been done quietly and without ostentation. The building in which the mission is established is a queer old shack, without vaulted ceilings and high-raised arches and cushioned comfort and powerful organs; it is only a hole in the wall, so to say, into which 65,000 persons have fled for refuge from the abounding wickedness of the world during the last two years; for little breathing spells, for the chance of feeling that they are at bottom just as good as other more fortunate of God's creatures; with the hope that they might themselves experience the blessedness of the promise that "him that cometh to Me I will in nowise cast out"; that God is the God of the living. More than seven hundred of the men and women who have attended the services at this unsightly place have been turned into better living and have become members of the several churches. That means one "conversion" a day, and those who have found themselves here have been the higher way in which their feet have been established.

No better work for the community is being done anywhere than in the Putnam Theatre Gospel Mission, and it is going on day and night, all the time, thanks to the noble men and women who under the leadership of Mr. Goddin are seeking to lift up those who have fallen, to make a little sunshine for those who are in the shadows.

## A YANKEE CONFEDERATE MONUMENT.

The people of Halifax County are as patriotic as any to be found in Virginia. When the war began, "way back in 1861," they sent hundreds of their young men to battle and they recruited their companies to the limit

of their muster-rolls until the war closed. Wherever Lee went the soldiers of Halifax followed, and wherever Jackson's standard was raised, there the Halifax boys rallied.

Down in Halifax they have not forgotten the war or the men who fought in it. They remember smoking home-steads and violated altars; they remember midnight raids and the desert waste behind the Federal foe. They have not forgotten the boys who fell at Gettysburg and Sharpsburg and Chancellorsville and Spotsylvania Court House, and they have always held their heads high when they have spoken of the bravery of their fathers and the fortitude of their mothers.

During recent years Halifax has prospered. Towns have sprung up there, the old red hills have grown wonderful corn crops and the sunny fields have yielded fine, rich tobacco that has brought thousands of dollars to the good people of Halifax. As they have grown rich, they have not forgotten, and recently they determined to erect a monument to Houston to the Confederate dead of the county. It was an idea worthy of Halifax, and the monument they proposed to rear was intended to be worthy of their fathers.

A committee raised the money and ordered, the monument—a stalwart Confederate soldier, standing, we imagine, at parade rest, but showing in his determined face a readiness to charge bayonets in a moment and to move against the death-belching line in front of him. At least, this is what the people of Halifax expected they would get. The monument came and was unpacked by reverent hands, anxious to unroll it on a noble granite shaft. What happened then is best described by the poet-laureate of the Houston Record-Advertiser in these glowing lines:

"The folks was out o' Johnny Rebs 'And sent a Yankee cuss. 'He come marked with a big U. S., 'And that's what raised the U. S. 'So they scratched the U and put a C— 'He's reconstructed now."

In other words, the dealer or sculptor who furnished the monument did not happen to have a Confederate soldier in marble and consequently sent a Federal figure, clad in the Northern uniform and bravely marked with the stamp of the United States. Nothing about the man suggests the South, and his garb is most unlike that which the Halifax boys wore when they went out to fight for home and fireside.

Naturally enough, the good people of the county are indignant, and some of the old Confederates who promised to contribute to the monument swear that they will not pay a dollar for the statue of a Yankee. As the poet of the Record-Advertiser puts it:

"But I want to fight the fust time I see 'That Yankee and his gun. 'I ain't a-going to help unvill 'No blooming granite Yankee."

The Committee in charge of the matter has decided to call a meeting of all interested parties and will then decide whether or not it will accept the Yankee-Confederate monument. From the sentiment expressed in the Houston paper and from the suggestions made by the editor it seems most likely that the Halifax people will decline to accept the monument and will raise funds for a statue worthy of the county and worthy of its Confederate dead.

We hope this will be the case, for while Houston has been especially insulted in being expected to receive a Federal soldier as a loyal Confederate, many another county shares its disappointment in the monument reared to the memory of our Southern heroes. There are a number of dealers in various parts of the country who make dozens of monuments of the same model and send them out whenever they are ordered. All of them are alike and all of them are unlike any Confederate soldier that we ever saw or ever read about. Of course, the marble men have a right to make an equal right to monuments that are true to life, true to history and creditable to the South. Better a small granite shaft erected in love and inscribed with patriotic devotion than a rampant "wooden" figure to insult the sensibilities of the people and to disgrace the memory of brave men.

A CATECHISM FOR THE PROUD. (Selected for The Times-Dispatch.) "For who maketh thee to differ from another? And what hast thou that thou didst not receive? Now, if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received it?"—1 Cor. IV. 7.

The Corinthian Church was exceedingly gifted. Perhaps no other church had in it so many persons of education and talent. Alas! its grace was not in proportion to its gifts, and consequently a proud spirit manifested itself in division and ostentation. Paul displayed great wisdom in his rebuke to these Corinthians. He did not undervalue their ability to argue and preach, or their gift of tongues. But he strikes deep at the root of their self-esteem, while he asks one or two searching questions. "If you are such a superior person, whence did you obtain this superiority? If you are different from the common herd, who makes you to differ? If you have remarkable gifts, how did you come to possess them? If all these abilities came from God, why do you boast? Why do you exalt yourself? What have you that you have not received?" These questions probe the pride of

man. As we pursue this train of thought, may the Holy Spirit enlighten us, for nothing is more difficult to discover or overcome than self-conceit. Pride is almost the first to attack, and certainly the last to leave us. It takes a thousand forms and hides itself under numberless disguises.

Humility still remains the rarest of jewels. Many prize themselves on having no pride. For it is easy to be proud while sneering at pride, and to glorify self while denouncing all self-exaltation.

It is a great and comprehensive truth that whatever advantage we may possess, it is God-given. "He giveth to all life, and breath, and all things." "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above and cometh down from the Father of Light." Everything that we are (except sin), and everything that we have which is worth having, we owe to the bounty of our God.

Begin at the lowest of all temporal advantages. We owe our physical strength and personal comeliness to the Lord alone. No credit is due to the athlete for his strength, nor to the lovely for their beauty. Strength and beauty are God's gifts, not virtues attained. And to each is put the question, "What hast thou that thou didst not receive?"

One will boast of his blood, and another of his wealth; but what had he to do with it? Who determined the place of his birth, or his parents? Why is he born in a Christian country and not among the savages of the earth? However great may be the privilege, no credit is due to those who have it; it is a free gift. "What hast thou which thou hast not received?"

Some are puffed up because they have forged their way to the front, and boast that they have made themselves. Who gave the opportunity for this success? If one has prospered, it comes of God's kind permission—"the Lord maketh poor and maketh rich"; if the light has been won from obscurity to dignity and position, it is of the gentleness of God, who "raiseth up the poor out of the dust." Education, prudent parents, opportunity, the boon of Providence—these have united to bring prosperity and honor; but still, what has he that he has not received?

Some glory in their talent and knowledge; but here again, who gave the mind and the ability to acquire and retain? Whence has come the health to enable the student to persevere in his laborious research? Many have been slain by their incessant toil. The brain is very sensitive, and many a philosopher may well thank God for reason preserved. To whom, then, does the successful student owe his continued apprehension and mental vigor? The teaching of this truth is a constant rebuke to pride. Who keeps thee from sin at this moment? Who opened thine eyes to behold the things of God? Didst thou bring light to thine own soul?

If we will but look back to our first estate, we shall surely be compelled to acknowledge our unworthiness and put to silence every boast forever!

This great truth excites to gratitude. And this gratitude should take the place of a continual and heartfelt obedience. Nothing that Jesus commands should be hard to us, and nothing He has hidden from us. All I possess comes from God; all that I am kept from is of the grace of God, then let me bless the Lord in the depth of my soul and show my gratitude by loving service.

The text reminds us of a great responsibility. Has God made a great difference between you and others, and in many respects given you great blessings? Forget not that where much is given, much will be required! If you have ten talents, have you brought in ten-fold interest? If five, where is the five-fold return? Alas! some who have the greatest ability for good do the least! What are you doing for the Lord? That is a matter of the most importance. You may be a well of water, but have you ever given a cup of cold water in His name? You may have a fat larder, but do you feed His hungry and thirsty little ones?

Think of your responsibilities, and pray that your eyes may be opened, so that you may perceive and know what things you ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfill the same!

With Cone Johnson running for Governor in Texas, and Cole Blaise running for Governor in South Carolina, the humor of politics should not be wholly lacking these days.

Now, if Doctor Clark will resume the rice diet, there is no telling what honors will come to him. Captain Stoney will observe that it was not until after that pocket was sent to this pundit that he began to pick up in the world.

If Doctor Charles Hopkins Clark will only prescribe a little ginger and sulphur for the Senatorial campaign in Connecticut the patient might stand a chance of recovery. By the way, who is the Doctor for, anyhow?

Blankets are comfortable in Richmond these delightful summer nights. They were not used extensively, it must be admitted, Thursday night, but Friday night and last night, the chill winds coming down upon us from the land of Dr. Frederick A. Cook, the Original Discoverer of the North Pole; but—what's the use?

Believe us, Brother Tom Loyless, of the Augusta Chronicle, your meaning is always so clear that it is not at all necessary for you to disguise your writings with black type. That is the resource of amateurs only and not of full grown men, who, having something to say, know how to say it.

The photograph of the Hon. F. H. Hyatt, which we have just received, looks as if he were making a sound "like" he was laying vitriol brick in Ladson street.

# Daily Queries and Answers

Address all communications for this column to Query Editor, Times-Dispatch. No mathematical problems will be solved, no coins, or stamps valued and no dealers' names will be given.

## Watermelon Vines.

Please tell me the best remedy for keeping bugs from sucking young watermelon vines. We and the little striped bug a great pest.

Write to Hon. George W. Kohn, Commissioner of Agriculture, Richmond, Va. for full information regarding this pest.

## Tournament at State Fair.

Write to me what the prize was that was ridden for in the tournament at the State Fair; also the size rings they used and the length of the lance. Would you like to see the rings? There will be one this fall at the fair.

You can get full information on this subject by writing to Marion J. D. R. subject by writing to Marion J. D. R. subject by writing to Marion J. D. R. subject by writing to Marion J. D. R.

## Peanut Butter.

Please print a recipe for making peanut butter. I have no recipe for peanut butter that we can recommend. If any of our readers have a recipe which they have tried we will be glad to print it.

## Why Is It Ice Men Are Not Required

Ice.

To weigh their goods the same as other firms? I have fallen short of my weight several times. Last Saturday I bought ten pounds and when I weighed it only balanced six pounds. Now, is this honest? A READER.

Of course, ice dealers are required to weigh the ice they sell you. If it falls short of the standard weight, you are only required to pay for what you get. See that your scales are correct and act accordingly.

The Death of Mrs. R. E. Lee. Please give the date of the death of Mrs. Robert E. Lee. A SUBSCRIBER.

November 8, 1872.

## General George Ransom.

Were Generals Mat and Robert Ransom the only Ransoms of the Confederate War? Was there such a person as General George Ransom?

The records show no such man.

## John L. Sullivan's Last Fight.

Please tell me when John L. Sullivan fought his last regular fight.

Sullivan's last fight was August 31, 1896, in New York. The fight went three rounds, but no decision was reached.

# MOURNING IN RUSSIA FOR ENGLISH RULER

BY LA MARQUISE DE FONTENAY. CURIOSLY enough, the observance of the death of the late Emperor of Russia, Alexander III, is deeper in St. Petersburg society than in London. In England people are beginning already to lighten their outward grief by a somewhat more cheerful and less gloomy mood. But in the Russian great world the mourning ordered by the Czar has been in nowise modified, and will continue until two months more have elapsed.

Not that any one complains; for Edward VII. was very popular on the banks of the Neva. His popularity, however, only dating from the accession of the present Emperor. Prior to that time the Czar, Alexander II, was the popular Englishman. Indeed, so bitter was the popular detestation of England that the black dragoon would often refuse to carry an Englishman on the ground that they did not care to work for an enemy of the Russian people.

Moreover, when Edward VII. was at St. Petersburg for the wedding of his brother, the late Duke of Edinburgh, and of his daughter, Princess Alice, he got not only arrested, but with his quarry, on his way back from the islands one night, by some overzealous officers of the Russian police, and got not only arrested, but with his quarry, on his way back from the islands one night, by some overzealous officers of the Russian police, and got not only arrested, but with his quarry, on his way back from the islands one night, by some overzealous officers of the Russian police.

The change of sentiment towards Edward VII. came when, as Prince of Wales, he remained by the side of his wife, the late Queen Victoria, in the long and wearisome funeral progress of Alexander III. from the Crimea to St. Petersburg. Nor could they forget that it was Edward VII. who, from the moment of his accession to the throne set to work to conciliate Russia. He was the first of the British monarchs to visit the Russian Empire, and to remove all sources of rivalry in Europe as well as in Asia. The Russians do not hesitate to assert that they owe to him the existence of the Russian Empire, and that they owe to him the existence of the Russian Empire, and that they owe to him the existence of the Russian Empire.

That is why Edward VII. is sincerely mourned in Russia. And why, of all the speeches deploring his death delivered by statesmen in England and in foreign countries there was none more eloquent of the Russian Emperor than that of President Goutchkoff, in the Russian Duma; of that Goutchkoff, whose hostility to the Japanese was so great that he had been led thereby to fight as a volunteer under the Boer flag in the last South African War.

Owing to the unfortunate fact that in England a divorced woman is permitted to retain her name, and that her husband, but also his title, if he happens to own one, it is difficult to know whether the lady who is known with Graham White in his biplane when it came to grief at Brooklands, in England, on Saturday last, was the present Countess of Arundel, or the one whom he divorced five years ago. The former is the widow of the late General George Palmer Robinson, of the British army, and a daughter of the late Lord Leinster. The latter, the divorced Lady Alcock, was the wife of the late Lord Alcock, and a daughter of the late Lord Alcock. The former is the widow of the late General George Palmer Robinson, of the British army, and a daughter of the late Lord Leinster. The latter, the divorced Lady Alcock, was the wife of the late Lord Alcock, and a daughter of the late Lord Alcock.

The first Lady Alcock's present better half is his third wife—was a woman even still more extraordinary and impressive than the first. She was a Bohemian, of the name of Petriska, who is generally understood to have been at one time an inmate of the seraglio of the Sultan of Turkey. Escaping from the Padishah's harem, she came to England, and turned up in London, figured in the cause celebre of the sculptor Richard Bell, against Sir Charles Wynn, and was the former and latter in a year later in the criminal action brought by Sir William Abdy against Bell for having seduced her. She was a woman of 600 by means of paste jewelry. Although Baroness Petriska, as she called herself, seems to have been something of a madam, a confidante of Bell in the fraud for which he was sentenced to a term of penal servitude, she was a woman of great intelligence, and she was a woman of great intelligence, and she was a woman of great intelligence.

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family, but have been settled for nearly 300 years in Essex, at Albyna, a charming old place not far from Romford. There was a family of Abdy who was Sheriff of London in the reign of Charles I., and each of his three sons was a baronet. These baronets all became extinct in the middle of the nineteenth century. The last of the Abdys was the seventh baronet, Sir William Abdy, at the age of ninety. He had married sixty years previously a Miss Anne Worsley, an daughter of the Marquis of Worsley, elder brother of the great Duke of Wellington. This marriage led to the union of the two families, and the Abdys were dissolved by act of Parliament. The lady subsequently married Lord William Charles Bentinck, and by him became the grandmother of the present Duke of Portland.

Lady Ellen Bentinck's previous wife was, curiously enough, also an illegitimate daughter, namely, Miss Augusta Seymour, the offspring of that John Elliott to the Abdy family, who was a descendant of the Duke of Devonshire. She was a woman of great beauty. The wife of an old and eccentric man, she was married to him by reason of her lovelessness. She was the acknowledged favorite of the Prince Regent, and the husband, and then left the Prince Regent to follow Philippe Egalite, Duke of Orleans, back to France. She was a woman of great beauty, and she was a woman of great beauty, and she was a woman of great beauty.

After her marriage, she was adopted by Maria Fagnian, Marchioness of Hertford and mother of Lord Henry Seymour, the founder of the Paris Jockey Club, and the Abdy family was the creator of the Wallace Museum in London. That is how she came to bear the name of Countess of Arundel, and she was the first wife of Lord Charles Bentinck.

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## Voice of the People

Communications must not contain abusive or obscene language. When this limit is exceeded letters will be returned. No anonymous communications will be published. A stamped envelope, with the writer's address, must accompany every communication.

## "A Reformed Theatre and Its Actors."

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch: "Sir—There is a shabby old street of our city of which the gay and prosperous do not care to hear. It is called Red Light District, and it was frequented by society's showiest representatives. A stranger passing through it after driving the motor car, would find Franklin Street west of the Capitol Square could hardly believe that this forsaken old place was the same Franklin street which was the same Franklin street, and that it was in now far gone days, a street of bright and busy life when the Ballard House and Exchange Hotel in their ancient glory. A queer old house with iron-guarded doors, apparently a cross between a jail and feed store, crowded in and about by the structures on this aged Franklin, between Twelfth and Thirteenth. It is only noticeable from the triangular structure of cotton-covered boards in front, bearing this contradictory announcement, 'Putnam Theatre Gospel Mission,' with a cordial invitation to all passers to enter."

For this theatre of erstwhile most unsavory reputation has changed its ways, and instead of being the resort of the Red Light District, it is a place of questionable recreation, it has turned its attention to becoming the white light of this locality. Two years ago, James H. Goddin, who has long been engaged in missionary work, found that the theatre had been closed, and at once started a fitting it up as a very heavy personal expense, which still continues, he began nightly gospel services with a morning Bible class, a singing school, and a choir, and all of these are still in operation to-day. The scope of his work is beyond the limit of human vision, and the theatre is now a place of one of the greatest leavening powers of our city. Sixty-five thousand in all have attended the services; over 100 have become converts, and many of these are still in operation to-day. The scope of his work is beyond the limit of human vision, and the theatre is now a place of one of the greatest leavening powers of our city.